Learning Conversation Notes	
Name of Partner: Kings Beach FRC	Date: Nov. 1, 2004
Number of Children Served: 53 children from 45 families were served through the Advocacy. 24 of these families with 32 children 0-5 have received health insurance – 13 boys, 14 girls, and 5 unborn. 65 families served through both Advocacy & Activities.	Ages: 13 – 1 year olds 8 – 2 year olds 4 – 3 year olds 12 – 4 year olds 11 – 5 years 5 – unborn
When Served: July 1, 2004- present	Gender: 19 girls, 29 boys, 5 unborn Ethnicity:

Conversation Participants: Kim Bradley, Alison Schwedner, Tamara Lieberman, Sylvia Ambriz, Kathy McHugh, Don Ferretti, Mike Romero, Nancy Baggett, Isabel Lopez, Bianca Di Giulio, and Pinky Thompson

## **Desired Outcomes:**

- 1. Families with children prenatal-five served by the Kings Beach Family Resource Center are raising healthy children.
- 2. A sustainability plan (including financial and social capital) will exist for the Kings Beach Family Resource Center.

## **Performance Measures:**

- Demographics
- Pictures from Mommy & Me, Mother Nature Children's Garden
- Sustainability Plan Update
- Stories
- Outcome Screen Data on 30 of the children prenatal- five

What is this data telling us about achievement of outcomes?

- On average the children were above a 4 on all indicators and improved between their first and last scores.
- #1- 12 children improved to some degree as an overall group their average was true between 4&5 the lowest score was a 2 on the first screen and the lowest on the last screen was 3. At the last screen 6 children were still not safe and were a 3 they decided to go further to look at this indicator.
- A lot of the children showing improvement have parents that have mental health issues and don't have a support network – once the parents get tied in with an advocate and become healthy the children improve – the 6 children who were still not safe at the last screen speak to this as that all of these parents were not healthy.
- Safety is the paramount factor in being healthy if basic needs are met it is easier to be healthy.
- Over and over again, it is obvious that a parent's ability to be healthy directly impacts their children and their growth.
- #9 11 children improved to true for this indicator. Anger in children is often an indicator that emotional development isn't appropriate. More often than not, if a parent is depressed the child will not have appropriate emotional development. Counseling is one tool used to improve the parent's emotional state, which improves the child's emotional development. Mapping out and identifying support services also helps to increase a parent's emotional state and appropriate functioning.
- #17 6 children dropped into the not true range for participating in a learning environment. The families are not engaging in a support network or the concept of needing a support network and are pulling their children out of programs that offer the learning support.

In what ways will we apply what we have learned from our data?

- From the first indicator of safety, it really reinforces the need to extend support systems for parents. In some ways, it is acceptable for the FRC to be a support system within a family. It is important to be a support system vs making families totally dependent on the FRC.
- It makes sense to talk with families around parent's behavior vs starting with the behaviors of the child.
- The more activities that are available to families the better chances of engaging families with their children prenatal through five – as long as the activities aren't all around their issues.
- Push the homevisiting idea because changing the dynamics in the homes can make huge differences.
- Work to really connect with the Early Childhood Relationship Support Project so that those working with children prenatal through five in the Tahoe Region are familiar with ECRSP and the staff.
- Would like to see more of a link between activities and enrichment that the child's involved in and their emotional development- as the School Readiness Coordinator Kathy can help out.

Other points that were made during the conversation:

- They have really increased the number of boys being served this was not the case last time.
- School Readiness Activities:
  - 41 children being served in Mommy & Me 23 girls, 18 boys.
  - Children's Nature Walk was attended by 6 mothers and 7 children prenatal through age five – 6 girls & 1 boy.
  - o The Mother Nature Children Garden 3 families with five girls 0-5.
  - Mommy & Me has become much more integrated.
- Sustainability Plan Update:
  - Board of Directors meeting end of November to begin sustainability plan including fundraising – they hope to have a plan in place by March.
  - They are continuing to look at creating ways for more community involvement – some moms have looked at ways to have some activities in their homes to gather to work with other families and start programs or support groups – the FRC is also looking at staffing to increase staffing hours to make the FRC facility more available to families that have started programs or support groups and need a meeting place.
- First big impression shows that overall at the last screen most all of the children are in the True range.
- As a result of looking at the outcome screen data summary the FRC staff decided to look at the indicators that they felt spoke to their outcomes.
- Sometimes tying people in through activities vs counseling is a good strategy.
- Need to find a way to train parents to use their own knowledge & their own strengths to remain well mentally, physically & emotionally.
- Parents need to know what their tools are to be self- sufficient ie: activities.
- The anecdotal stories were very helpful as they tie directly back to the outcome.
- Families need to be willing and ready to receive services so it is successful.
- The Advocates have talked with parents around the effects of domestic violence on brain development.
- The messages around brain development need to be better intertwined in the other messages that the Advocates are delivering.
- Parents who are not engaging are a struggle to deal with it makes it difficult on the Advocates. They have often been engaged at one point and have become disengaged.

## **Next Steps:**

- They are working to determine more ways to gather additional data from Mommy & Me and the Tahoe Forest PeriNatal Outreach Program – they feel this data will tell them a lot about all of the families they are serving which can help them better serve the needs of the families in this region – focus on tracking the Advocacy children vs the activities they are in.
- They also want to find a way to look at individual children and families to see how long and why they have been comprehensive cases – need to see why they are still dependent.
- It might be helpful to pull up a child's screen along with their parent's screen and post them side-by-side.
- Kathy McHugh will work to assist the FRC Advocates in scoring indicator #9 appropriate emotional development.
- Facing the challenge of engaging families who don't want to be engaged

   maybe these families aren't ready to be engaged but are ready for
   other points of engagement the challenge is to find what these other
   points of engagement. Advocates will get together and connect with
   other FRCs to work out strategies to reach families through the various
   stages of change....Pre-contemplation, Contemplation, Preparation,
   Action, and Maintenance.